

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 is pending in this application. Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. patent 6,160,009 to Carney in view of U.S. patent 3,303,537 to Mislan. That rejection is traversed by the present response as discussed next.

Independent claim 1 is amended by the present response to clarify features recited therein. Specifically, independent claim 1 now further recites “the pneumatic connection introducing air into the structure from a side thereof opposing the shutter”, and

opening the shutter for detecting the thermologic parameters while the radiation sensor and the pointer device are surrounded by the introduced air, which introduced air passes the pointer device and the radiation sensor from the pneumatic connection towards the opened shutter.

The above-noted features are believed to be clear from Figures 1 and 2 in the present specification.

As shown in Figures 1 and 2 in the present specification as a non-limiting example, claim 2 is directed to a method to detect the distribution of service temperatures in a die-casting or molding process. The claimed method applies to a system including a radiation sensor 4, a pointing device 5, and a protective structure 2. That protective structure 2 includes a shutter 3 and a pneumatic connection 7. The pneumatic connection 7 can introduce or blow air into the protective structure 2. The housing of the system, i.e., the protective structure 2, encompasses the radiation sensor 4 and the pointing device 5.

Figure 1 shows a structure in which the shutter 3 is in a closed position, and Figure 2 shows a structure in which the shutter 3 is in an opened position. In the structure shown in Figure 2, showing the opened position of the shutter 3, the radiation sensor 4 is positioned within the protective structure 2 such that thermologic parameters originating from a surface 8 of the oppositely arranged wall can be detected by the radiation sensor 4.

Further, in that position of Figure 2 in which the shutter 3 is opened, the radiation sensor 4 and the pointer device 5 are surrounded by air introduced from the pneumatic connection 7, which introduced air passes the pointer device 5 and radiation sensor 4 from the pneumatic connection 7 towards the opened shutter 3.

The features recited in the claims are believed to clearly distinguish over Carney in view of Mislan. Applicants submit neither Carney nor Mislan disclose or suggest the features now clarified in the claims of providing a pneumatic connection that can introduce air into the claimed structure from a side opposing a shutter, and further opening the shutter for detecting the thermologic parameters while the radiation sensor and the pointer device are surrounded by the introduced air that passes the pointer device and radiation sensor from the pneumatic connection towards the opened shutter.

Applicants also note such a feature in the claimed invention allows maintaining the interior of the protective structure 2 free from ambient contamination, and also allows the radiation sensor 4 and the pointer device 5 to be cooled by the air passing them.

The outstanding rejection relies on Carney to disclose a temperature detecting equipment 23 and a shutter 27 to open for detecting equipment to measure temperature distribution inside a furnace. In that respect applicants note that in Figure 2 Carney shows the temperature detecting equipment 23 outside of the furnace 10. Clearly in Carney no pneumatic connection is provided behind that temperature detecting equipment 23 to introduce air, as again that temperature detecting equipment 23 is provided outside of a tank 10.

Moreover, applicants respectfully submit Carney could not even have been modified to meet the claim limitations. That is, the temperature detecting equipment 23 in Carney does not suffer from being heated or have any other reason to have air passed thereover. Thereby, there clearly would not even have been any reason for one of ordinary skill in the art to

modify Carney to introduce air from a pneumatic connection to pass the temperature detecting equipment 23.

Moreover, no teachings is Mislan cure the deficiencies in Carney. The Office Action merely relied on Mislan to disclose a radiation sensor, but Mislan is also not at all directed to a similar type of device as claimed in which a pneumatic connection is provided behind a shutter and that introduces air to pass a pointer device and a radiation sensor when the shutter is opened.

In view of the foregoing comments, applicants respectfully submit amended independent claim 2 distinguishes over Carney in view of Mislan.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 03/06)

Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423